

Application No.: 09884,844
Amendment dated: September 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of June 4, 2004
Attorney Docket No.:1066us

b.) Remarks

Claims 1-9 are pending in this application. Claims 1 and 4 have been amended in various particulars.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 for having insufficient antecedent basis for the limitation "pins." Claim 4 has been amended to describe that the leads are pins that extend vertically relative to the frame.

Claims 1-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,222,170 to Bargar *et al.* in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,065,226 to Kluitmans *et al.*. This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Claim 1, as amended, requires a frame and electrical feedthrough assembly on the frame. Signal wire bond areas are provided along with "ground wire bond areas ... that are electrically connected to each other."

The feature is shown in FIG. 1, for example, wherein the ground wire bond areas 150 are provided at multiple locations.

As illustrated in FIG. 3, there is actually a ground bus within the package that ties these ground pads to each other, in one embodiment.

The advantage of the present invention is that it allows for multiple ground pad connections within a hermetic package thereby overcoming pin limitation associated with these optoelectronic hermetic packages.

This feature is neither shown nor suggested by either of the applied references. That is neither of the references shows multiple ground wire bond areas within the hermetic package that are electrically connected to each other.

For ongoing reasons applicant believes that the present invention is patentable over the applied references.

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Applicant believes that the present application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited. Should any questions arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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